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09 MAY 2000

PATENT

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[Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Jurgen Schlegel et al.

Serial No.: 09/508,301

Filed: March 9, 2000

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PROCESSING FRESH MEAT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Attention: Refund Section,
Accounting Division, Office of Finance

REQUEST FOR REFUND
(37 C.F.R. 1.28)a)

I. SUBMISSION OF VERIFIED STATEMENT

- (a) ☒ Attached is a verified statement claiming small entity status in this application.
- (b) ☐ A verified statement claiming small entity status was filed in this application on _____.

II. REFUND REQUEST

This request for refund is made within two months of the date a fee was paid in this application on March 9, 2000 in the amount of \$ 840.00.

III. FEES PAID FOR WHICH REFUND REQUESTED

AMOUNT OF
REFUND REQUESTED

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Filing fee | \$ <u>840.00</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Surcharge for filing the basic filing fee on a date later than the filing date of the application (37 CFR 1.16(e) or 37 CFR 1.16(l)). | \$ |

and/or

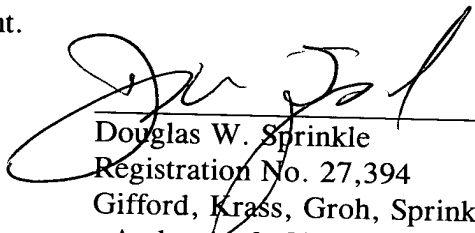
- ☐ Surcharge for filing the oath or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application \$
- ☐ Extension of term \$
- ☐ Issue fee \$
- ☐ Patent maintenance fee
- ☐ first maintenance fee \$
- ☐ second maintenance fee \$
- ☐ third maintenance fee \$
- ☐ Patent maintenance fee surcharge. \$
- ☐ Other \$

TOTAL REFUND REQUESTED \$ 420.00

IV. MANNER OF REFUND

Please make refund by

- ☒ crediting Account No. 07-1180
- ☐ refunding overpayment.


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**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27 (c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

Docket No.
MFA-11902/04

Serial No.
09/508,301

Filing Date
March 9, 2000

Patent No.

Issue Date

Applicant/
Patentee: Juergen Schlegel
Hubert Verhaag
Wilfried Schwoerer

Invention:

PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR THE TREATMENT OF FRESH MEAT

I hereby declare that I am:

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: Vivotec New Concepts in Fresh Meat GmbH

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: Adelholmstrasse 17, D-47652 Weeze / Germany

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the above identified invention described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
the application identified above.
☒ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed on the next page and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

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Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ no such person, concern or organization exists.
☐ each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ Individual☐ Small Business Concern☐ Nonprofit Organization

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING:

TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING

OTHER THAN OWNER:

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING:

SIGNATURE:

DATE: